

National Trails Day 2009—Kids’ Event

By Nancy Gehm and Irene Lindquist, Seward Ranger District

The first Saturday in June has been designated National Trails Day. This year, children and their caregivers from several communities located adjacent to the Seward Ranger District enjoyed the 6th Annual National Trails Day Kids’ Event hosted by the Seward Ranger District on the first Wednesday of June.



A playful group of over 100 kids, parents, caregivers, and Forest Service employees came together to relish the lush Alaskan outdoors, enjoy nature crafts, as well as other fun games and activities.

This creative event for youngsters is the bright idea of two energetic, long-term Forest Service employees, Irene Lindquist and Katy Toth-Stauble; both busy moms themselves, and very familiar with what children like to do.

When describing the planning stage of this event, Irene says “We have a lot of fun. The two of us have planned the event from the inception of this now annually-anticipated event. We get so excited about deciding which science/natural history theme to focus on, and generate so many ideas, that we already have a few ideas for next year!”

Lindquist elaborated upon her inspiration for the event, saying “My goal is to get kids outside and turn them on to nature and the outdoors through fun activities and crafts related to nature. It seems like more people show up each year, and now have a large following of kids from Seward, Cooper Landing and Moose Pass.”

Katy Toth-Stauble as the Dandelion Queen, and Martha Story as the Happy Gardener.
